Sample Copy

THE CANADIAN PHILATELIC WEEKLY

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Newfoundland.

By Chas. Jenney, in *The Canadian Philatelist*.

From the North there came a message to a distant, sunny clime,
'Twas a message from the icebergs to the fig tree and the lime:
Others followed, bringing tidings, causing silent joy or mirth,
Or perchance they told of sorrow, of some dear one gone from earth.
Times it seemed as if warm currents from that far Atlantic Isle,
Had swept southward, brightening nature, bringing to her face a smile;
Then it seemed as if its bleak wind, flying fast o'er dale and hill,
Sought to pierce the golden tropic with a gruesome sense of chill.
From the date of fifty-seven, every message came in state,
And each bearer of a message, wore the livery of its date.
First the shamrock and the thistle blazoned on a field of white,
And the name, St. Johns, Newfoundland, circling round from left to right;
Then there came a page who bore the coronet in octagon,
Quartefoil, with the same motto as its brothers, elder born.
Later there came new devices, whispering of Atlanta's tanks,
Cod and seal with iceberg background, and a schooner off the banks.
In all colors of the rainbow, were these pages who were sped,
With their tidings from Newfoundland, to a land with sunlight wed.

Many years have faded in the dimming memories of the past,
Each new generation rising, scarcely thinking of the last;
Long-forgotten are the tidings which those messages once told,
And the writer and the reader long have changed from life to mould,
But those little bits of paper, that as passports served them then,
Still are treasured and hold places of great honor among men.
While the thoughts they served to carry, over sea and over land,
May have gone from us forever, by stern fate's unjust command,
Still we see the seal and cod-fish, and the full-rigged fishing-smack
On the pages of our album, and they bring old memories back.

Some Australasian Stamps

By Canadensis.

In taking up a scientific study of stamps it is necessary that collectors should learn the meaning of the different devices which we find depicted on the various issues. This can easily be accomplished by a little study, and then when you are showing your collection to a friend, you can explain the stamp and give a lucid reason why it bears that particular device. It is not enough to say "that is a Newfoundland stamp with a fish on it." You must tell them the particular kind of a fish it is, and let them know the cod-fish industry of the island has been the means of bringing out that stamp.

The "land of the golden fleece" as Australia is called, bears some designs of animals that you should know all about. First of all take the 2 cent stamp of New South Wales of the 1888 issue, What do we see on it? Nine out of ten would say an ostrich. Not much! It is a bird called an "emu." It is remarkable for its large size —standing several feet in height—and for its long hair-like plumage. It is one of the wonders of Australia, and is found in large numbers in the interior. On the same country's 8 cent stamp of 1889 we find one of the most beautiful birds in the world. It is the "lyre-bird" so-called from the magnificent lyre-shaped tail which adorns the male. The bird itself is the size of a pheasant, while its tail measures three feet. On the one shilling N. S. W. stamp we have the kangaroos. These animals have made great inroads upon grain and pasture lands, but by government bounties and the use of kangaroo leather they are gradually declining. The kangaroos are so swift that they will often outrun a thoroughbred horse for miles. There are many varieties of these marsupials, from the "old man," standing seven feet high, through more than *forty* species and sizes to the little kangaroo mouse that can make its home in a tea-cup.

Western Australia was formerly called "Swan River." We see the swan on all her stamps. There they have the black swan, the most beautiful of its species, its ebony hue and proud symmetry being very picturesque.

Tasmania, however; has the most curious animal in all the wide world—some say it is half bird and half animal. It is the duck-billed Platypus or Ornithorhynchus. It is found on the revenue-postals of 1882, 1, 3, 6d and 1 shilling values. This animal has the bill and feet of a duck and the body of an otter, the connecting link between quadrupeds and birds. Thoug h it lays eggs it suckles its young.

The information gained, by a thorough systematic study of stamps, will soon solve the problem as to the "science of philately"—*The Stamp.*

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Thus Saith The Editor.

Since issuing our last number we have been in receipt of numerous complimentary remarks concerning that issue, for which we wish to tender our sincere thanks. It is always pleasing to know that subscribers appreciate our efforts to improve our paper.

On Jany. 1st our subscription price will be raised. It will pay you to subscribe while it is ten cents a year.

We must again have a little say concerning the Canadian Philatelic Press Club. It can be made a good thing. If you are a philatelic writer or publisher send in your name to F. I. Weaver, sec'y. pro tem.

We want a good correspondent in New Orleans and San Francisco to furnish us with notes. Must be strictly up-to-date.

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A Condensed Philatelic Encyclopædia.

Continued from issue of Nov. 16th
By OBSERVER.

Emblems (Heraldic.) Watermarks in some of the early stamps of Great Britain. The two in the upper corners of the stamps represent roses of York and Lancaster. Those in the lower corners the Shamrock of Ireland and the thistle of Scotland.

Embossed. Stamps printed from a sunken die. Raised or in relief. The die is usually pressed against leather or some yielding surface, which is forced into the depressions of the die pressing the paper into shape—relief. This may be done without color as in the early Italian stamps or in part color as in the U. S. envelopes.

Engraving. Dies cut on soft steel then afterwards hardened and the impression given by pressure to other copper or steel plates. Upon this, ink is rolled filling up the little depressions or cuts made by the engraver. Then the plates are usually rubbed by the hand of the printer and then the printing made by the pressure over damp paper.

Engravers marks or secret marks. Little marks made on the die by an engraver so that he can tell his work, sometimes ordered by governments like the 1871-2 U. S. issue.

Entires. The whole envelope with the stamp on.

(to be continued.)

The D. P. A. Meet.

A special meeting of the D. P. A. officers was held at Toronto on Thanksgiving day. On account of distance some of the officers were not present. Some important business was transacted but lack of space compels us to hold over the report until next week.

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